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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/672,268	09/23/2003	Laszlo J. Kecskes	ARL 03-22	8844
37064	7590	12/12/2005	EXAMINER	
OFFICE OF COMMAND COUNSEL, U.S. ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND ATTN: AMCCC-B-IP 9301 CHAPEK ROAD FORT BELVOIR, VA 22060-5527			GRAHAM, MARK S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3711	
DATE MAILED: 12/12/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/672,268

Applicant(s)

KECSKES ET AL.

Examiner

Mark S. Graham

Art Unit

3711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 12-30 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/19/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

Applicant's election without traverse of the sodium chloride species in the reply filed on 10/6/05 is acknowledged.

Claims 12-30 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 10/6/05.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 10, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Simonetti in view of Forrester '811. Simonetti discloses the claimed device with the exception of the solvent-soluble granulated medium. However, as disclosed by Forrester '811 it is known to include such in the impact area to stabilize lead fragments. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have done the same with Simonetti's impact area for the same reason.

Concerning claim 2, Simonetti provides that various ammunition may be used in his device. Depending on the caliber of the ammunition granular material such as Forrester's would inherently have been comparable to the smallest projectile material fragments.

With regard to claim 4, Simonetti does not disclose the thickness of his steel layers. However, absent a showing of unexpected results the use of .25 inch steel would have been obvious to the ordinarily skilled artisan depending on the caliber of the projectile being fired.

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Regarding claims 3 and 10, the apertures in the top and bottom walls of Simonetti's device would obviously have had to have been greater than 25 millimeters to properly process the granular material.

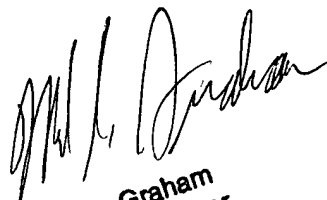
Claims 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the art as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Forrester '283.

As Forrester '811 points out at Col. 4, first full paragraph, various chlorides may be used for his granular material. One such known chloride used to stabilize lead is sodium chloride as disclosed by Forrester '283 in paragraph 5. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have used sodium chloride based on these combined teachings.

Moberg, Copius, Cody et al., and Bean et al. have been cited for interest because they disclose similar systems.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Mark S. Graham at telephone number 571-272-4410.

MSG
11/22/05



Mark S. Graham
Primary Examiner